

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are submitted under 35 U.S.C. §132 and 37 C.F.R. §1.111 in response to the Ex Parte Quayle Office Action mailed November 5, 2003.

Summary of the Examiner's Action and Applicants' Response

The Examiner stated that Claims 1-35 are allowed over the prior art. The Examiner objected on formalities to the specification, drawings, and Claims 1, 21, 18-25, 34, and 35. In response, Claims 1, 18, 21, 34, and 35 and the specification and drawings have been amended in order to correct informalities.

Response to Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawing as missing descriptive legends. In response, Applicants have amended Figs. 1 and 6 to add descriptive legends. Fig. 1 has also been amended to make it clearer that, for the embodiment shown in Fig. 1, the "16" shown refers to the channels 20 being 16-bits wide (see page 5, lines 24-26). For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully requests that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Response to Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to page 7 of the specification and to the Abstract because of informalities. In response, Applicants have amended page 7 to correct a typographical error. Regarding the objection to the Abstract, Applicants respectfully submit that the requested correction was made in the preliminary amendment filed December 21, 1999 along with the application. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully requests that the objections to the specification be withdrawn.

Response to Objection to Claims 1, 21, 18-25, 34, and 35

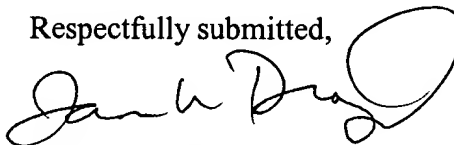
The Examiner objected to Claims 1, 21, 34, and 35 based on informalities. In response, Applicants have amended Claims 1, 21, 34, and 35. The Examiner objected to Claims 18-25 as being improper dependent claims. In response, Applicants have amended Claim 18 to remove the dependencies and instead, included an apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, in the text of Claim 18.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully requests that the objections to Claims 1, 21, 18-25, 34, and 35 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objections to the specification, drawings, and the claims have been overcome and respectfully requests that the objections be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims, Claims 1-35, are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any question concerning this amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0201 for any payment in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if such action might expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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